

EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

East Providence School Committee

East Providence High School Auditorium

2000 Pawtucket Avenue

East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

January 28, 2014

Open Session

Mr. Monteiro, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Members present: Elizabeth Clupny, Timothy Conley, Anthony Ferreira and Joel Monteiro (Richard Pimentel absent). Also present: Kim Mercer, Superintendent of Schools, Tony Dias, SMMA Architects and Mike Taber, Project Manager, Farrar Associates.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag & Moment of Silence were observed in the auditorium.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for the School Committee and members of the community to walk through the High School to view the improvements made to the high school facilities, and review/observe construction projects to be completed in the near future. Improvements included:

Auditorium: Sprinklers installed, carpeting, removed asbestos and

put up panels (which were not successful; but will look at another material to replace panels); pipes in stage area; stairs to catwalk with protector; new hardware on doors, exit signs; speakers, new public address system; room will be painted; a ramp near stage enables access to the stage-now made handicapped accessible; stage floor resurfaced; ceiling tiles will be fixed before painting; focus was more on life safety issues. Tony Dias explained that the humidity level caused tiles to pop and buckle. Upgrade of lighting done by Johnson Controls. Walls are still 1950's; opt to just keep the line as a cut off; School Department might opt to do that work later.

Hallway: New Ceiling, glass taken out and replaced with fire rated door; new flooring; new public address system throughout the school; updated fire alarm; new hallway doors connected to fire alarm and will close in event of fire. Over 100,000 square feet of asbestos tile replaced with VCT tile in classrooms and hallway; everything else will be done this summer.

Science Lab: still needs demolition; electrical and plumbing to connect to add labs; fume hood to be accessed from both sides; new shelf, eye wash station; base cabinets will be in the next few weeks; vinyl tile installed; Tony, SMMA – six weeks reasonable.

Greenhouse removed.

Large Gym: Cleaned and painted; old bleachers removed, floor stripped to natural wood and resurfaced, with new logos added; new bleachers from Providence College installed; new banners and televisions to be installed; new motors on five of the backboards; safety straps added to backboards.

New stand system pipes for Fire Department added in multiple stair wells; new computer lab, now five (old Home Economics Room). It was noted that the TV in this location is outdated and should be removed; area of refuge at stairwell for handicapped to notify fire department.

Band Room - Built a vestibule. Two means of egress; on punch list to put door back on; roof was soundproofed.

Classrooms – new tile and Public Address system.

Discussion about NEASC Report. Superintendent Mercer advised that most items have been addressed; handicapped accessibility in Boy's Locker Room will be difficult to get ADA accessibility. The Superintendent advised that there is a lot of work to be done in all the buildings and we have a plan to prioritize needs; NEASC and high school accreditation is important.

Discussion about the high school office door; cameras have been installed along with signs, and swipe cards for the doors.

Comments from resident that funds from the sale of school buildings should go to repairing schools.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Clupny, seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Vote 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Iannelli, Administrative Assistant

Elizabeth Clupny, Clerk of the Committee